

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please add the following heading before, and amend the first full paragraph of the Specification (pages 1-2) as follows:

**Related Applications**

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial Number 09/832,436, filed April 10, 2001, entitled "Common Command Interface", still pending, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial Number 09/803,783, filed March 12, 2001, entitled "VPI/VCI Availability Index", still pending now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial Number 09/789,665, filed February 21, 2001, entitled "Out-Of-Band Network Management Channels", still pending now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial Number 09/777,468, filed February 5, 2001, entitled "Signatures for Facilitating Hot Upgrades of Modular Software Components", still pending now U.S. Patent No. 6,880,086, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial Number 09/756,936, filed January 9, 2001, entitled "Network Device Power Distribution Scheme", now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial Number 09/718,224, filed November 21, 2000, entitled "Internal Network Device Dynamic Health Monitoring", still pending, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial Number 09/711,054, filed November 9, 2000, entitled "Network Device Identity Authentication", still pending, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial Number 09/703,856, filed November 1, 2000, entitled "Accessing Network Device Data Through User Profiles", still pending, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial Number 09/687,191, filed October 12, 2000 entitled "Utilizing Managed Object Proxies in Network Management Systems", now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial Number 09/669,364, filed September 26, 2000 entitled "Distributed Statistical Data Retrieval in a Network Device", now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial Number 09/663,947, filed September 18, 2000,

entitled "Network Management System Including Custom Object Collections", now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial Number 09/656,123, filed September 6, 2000, entitled "Network Management System Including Dynamic Bulletin Boards", now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial Number 09/653,700, filed August 31, 2000, entitled "Network Management System Including SONET Path Configuration Wizard", now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial Number 09/637,800, filed August 11, 2000, entitled "Processing Network Management Data In Accordance with Metadata Files", still pending, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial Number 9/633,675, filed August 7, 2000, entitled "Integrating Operations Support Services with Network Management Systems", still pending, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial Number 09/625,101, filed July 24, 2000, entitled "Model Driven Synchronization of Telecommunications Processes", now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial Number 09/616,477, filed July 14, 2000, entitled "Upper Layer Network Device Including a Physical Layer Test Port", now U.S. Patent No. 7,054,272, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial Number 09/613,940, filed July 11, 2000, entitled "Network Device Including Central and Distributed Switch Fabric Sub-Systems", now U.S. Patent No. 7,039,046, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial Number 09/596,055, filed June 16, 2000, entitled "A Multi Layer Device in One Telco Rack", now U.S. Patent No. 6,760,339, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial Number 09/593,034, filed June 13, 2000, entitled "A Network Device for Supporting Multiple Upper Layer Protocols Over a Single Network Connection", now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial Number 09/574,440, filed May 20, 2000, entitled "Vertical Fault Isolation in a Computer System", now U.S. Patent No. 6,654,903, and U.S. Serial Number 09/591,193, filed June 9, 2000 entitled "A Network Device for Supporting Multiple Redundancy Schemes", now U.S. Patent No. 6,332,198, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial Number 09/588,398, filed June 6, 2000, entitled "Time Synchronization Within a Distributed Processing System", now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial Number 09/574,341, filed May 20, 2000,

entitled "Policy Based Provisioning of Network Device Resources", now U.S. Patent No. 7,062,642, and U.S. Serial Number 09/574,343, filed May 20, 2000, entitled "Functional Separation of Internal and External Controls in Network Devices", now U.S. Patent No. 6,639,910.